

REMARKS

In the Office Action¹, the Examiner rejected claims 14, 15, 19, 21, 22, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,761,343 to Haruma et al. ("*Haruma*"); objected to claims 16-18, 20, 23, and 24 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims; and allowed claims 1-13 and 26-35.

Applicant has canceled claims 14-25. Claims 1-13 and 26-35 remain pending.

In response to the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-13 and 26-35 (Office Action at page 3), Applicant has canceled claims 14-25, without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter. Applicant submits that pending claims 1-13 and 26-35 are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

¹ The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicant declines to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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